Surveillance during operational night hours has been increased. Procedures for movement of vehicles and materials existing/entering the airport have been streamlined and regulated. Passengers/visitors/ employees of various agencies at airports are being screened. Directorate General of re-settlement has been entrusted the job of security of cargo and infrastructure at cargo terminal. Airport Security Committee Meeting is held once a month to review the security arrangements at the airport.

Tapping of underground water by Soft Drinks MNCs

*390. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many soft drinks MNCs have been taping underground water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to stop the draining of country's water resources?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Soft Drinks Multi National Companies (MNCs) are tapping ground water in various parts of the country. The details of ground water being utilised by soft drinks companies including MNCs are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below)

In order to regulate ground water withdrawal by industries including aerated drink manufactures, Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), constituted under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, had circulated a list of critical areas to State Pollution Control Boards, Ministry of Environment & Forests etc. which refer proposals of new industries to CGWA for obtaining No Objection Certificate (NOC) before issuing permission. Depending upon the availability of ground water and site specific scientific considerations in such areas, NOC is granted by the CGWA on case to case basis. A pre-condition for such permission is the mandatory adoption of rain water harvesting system for ground water recharge by the industry. Since licensing authority for any industry is the State Government/State agencies/State Pollution Control Board, any action to stop the draining of ground water by the industries is to be taken by them.

Moreover, 'Water' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to take remedial steps to check over-exploitation of ground water. The following remedial measures are also envisaged in this regard by the Central Government:—

(i) Regulation of ground water withdrawal.

(ii) Adopting artificial recharge.

(iii) Treatment and recycling of industrial waste water.

(iv) Adopting Rainwater harvesting.

Statement

Details of utilisation of ground water by industries including MNCs for manufacture of Soft Drinks, Mineral Water, Beverages, etc.

Sl. No.	State	Number of Industreis using ground water including MNC's for soft drink/ mineral water etc.	Estimated quantity of ground water utilised (Million Cubic Meter/ Year)
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	4	0.505
2	Assam	11	0.093
3	Chandigarh	30	1.653
4	Chhattisgarh	9	0.042
5	Goa	1	0.090
6	Gujarat	70	0.098
7	Haryana	15	0.114
8	Jharkhand	9	0.194
9	Karnataka	52	0.356
10	Kerala	75	0.332
11	Madhya Pradesh	3	0.022

1	2	3	4
12	Meghalaya	42	0.009
13	Orissa	25	0.037
14	Punjab	28	1.652
15	Rajasthan	57	1.343
16	Tripura	3	0.006
17	Uttaranchal	4	0.201
18	Uttar Pradesh	4	0.510
19	West Bengal	8	0.566
20	Andaman & Nicobar	1	0.003
21	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3	0.007
22	U.T. of Pondicherry	1	0.002

Senior Citizens Saving Scheme, 2004

*391. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of interest being allowed on interest earned under Senior Citizens Saving Scheme, 2004;

(b) if reply to above be in the negative the reasons for denial of legitimate earnigns of such depositors;

(c) whether Government have discontinued periodical entries of interest in Pass Books issued to depositors, under Senior Citizens, Savings Scheme, 2004; and

(d) if so, the utility of such Pass Books issued to depositors?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The Senior Citizens Savings Scheme is intended to provide an avenue of investment to the senior citizens which enables them to earn an assured, reasonable and regular income from their accumulated savings.